

**LEGAL NOTICE**  
**USDA-Forest Service,**  
**Deschutes National**  
**Forest, Crescent**  
**Ranger District**  
**Notice of 30-day**  
**Comment Period**  
**on the Preliminary**  
**Environmental**  
**Assessment for**  
**Crescent Creek Wild**  
**and Scenic River and**  
**Forest Plan**  
**Amendments**

The Preliminary Environmental Assessment (PEA) for the Crescent Creek Wild and Scenic River Plan and Forest Plan Amendments has been completed and is now available for a 30-day comment period. A copy of this Preliminary EA is available by request by contacting the project lead listed at the end of this notice. The Preliminary EA is available on the internet at: [https://data.ecosystem-management.org/nepaweb/nepa\\_project\\_exp.php?project=47575](https://data.ecosystem-management.org/nepaweb/nepa_project_exp.php?project=47575).

The purpose of this proposal is to provide a basis to develop a comprehensive river management plan to protect and enhance the values for which the river was designated (free flowing, water quality, and outstandingly remarkable values) and identify and implement Forest Service management actions needed to protect these values within the Crescent Creek corridor located on Federal lands. Section 3 of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (16 USC 1274, as amended) specifies a comprehensive management plan will be developed for the designated river corridor.

The 1988 designation of the Crescent Creek Wild and Scenic River established an interim river corridor

boundary with a width of 0.25 miles from the ordinary high water mark on either side of the river for interim management during the preparation of the final boundary and comprehensive river management plan. The adjustments to the Crescent Creek and Scenic River boundary were intended to provide for protection and enhancement of river values. Section 3(b) of the Wild and Scenic River Act states "...establish detailed boundaries therefor (which boundaries shall include an average of not more than 320 acres of land per mile measured from the ordinary high water mark on both sides of the river)." This plan does not apply to any portions of Crescent Creek downstream, or not on Federal lands, thus outside of the designated Wild and Scenic River Corridor. The entire segment Crescent Creek Wild and Scenic River is designated as "Recreational."

The legal description of this project from SW 1/4 of Section 11, T24S, R6E to the west section line of Section 13, T24S, R7E. Six of the ten miles of Crescent Creek designated as Wild and Scenic River corridor is managed by the US Forest Service with the balance in private ownership.

The Crescent Creek Wild and Scenic EA proposes a programmatic Forest Plan amendment that is specific to the project area and is necessary to modify plan components including Standards and Guidelines and Management Area categories for lands within the river corridor. Specifically the amendment will adjust and finalize the boundary and change all the underlying land Management Allocations (MA) to Wild and Scenic (MA17) less the Administratively Withdrawn/Old Growth Management Area. Based on the direction provided in the revised 2012 Planning Rule (36 CFR 219) a review of the provisions 36 CFR 219.8 through 219.11 is required for project

-level Forest Plan Amendments. After a review of these substantive requirements, the following apply to the Crescent Creek Wild and Scenic River Management Plan EA Forest Plan Amendment: 36 CFR 219.10 (v); 219.8(a)(2); 219.9(a)(1); 219.10(a)(1); 219.10(a)(2).

Your participation is encouraged during the public comment period. Comments would be most helpful if they included your name and address; the title of the project; specific comments, along with supporting reasons why you believe they are relevant and should be considered; and a signature or other verification of identity. Written, facsimile, hand delivered, oral, and electronic comments concerning this action will be accepted for 30 calendar days following publication of notification in The Bulletin, Bend, Oregon. (see 218.25(a)(2)). The publication date in the newspaper of record is the exclusive means for calculating the comment period for this proposal. Those wishing to comment should not rely on dates or timeframes provided by any other source. Regulations prohibit extending the length of the comment period. Comments can be mailed or hand delivered to the Responsible Official, Daniel Rife, District Ranger, Crescent Ranger District, PO Box 208, (136471 Hwy 97 N.) Crescent, Oregon, 97733, or FAX at (541) 433-3224. The business hours for those submitting hand-delivered comments are 8 am to 4:30 pm Monday through Friday, excluding holidays. Oral comments can be provided to Daniel Rife, Crescent District Ranger, only during normal business hours via telephone (541) 433-3200 or in person.

Comments can be filed electronically at: [comments-pacificnortwest-deschutes-crescent@fs.fed.us](mailto:comments-pacificnortwest-deschutes-crescent@fs.fed.us). Electronic comments

must be submitted as part of the e-mail message or as an attachment in plain text (.txt), Microsoft Word (.doc), rich text format (.rtf), or portable document format (.pdf). E-mails submitted to addresses other than the one listed above, or in formats other than those listed or containing viruses, will be rejected.

Comments received in response to this solicitation, including names and addresses of those who comment, will be considered part of the public record for this project and will be available for public inspection. Comments submitted anonymously will be accepted and considered; however, those who submit anonymous comments will not have standing to appeal the subsequent decision under 36 CFR 218.

The Crescent Creek Wild and Scenic River Comprehensive River Management Plan Environmental Assessment and Forest Plan Amendment is subject to the pre-decisional administrative review process pursuant to 36 CFR 218 subparts A and B (aka, the objection process).

For further information, contact Kyle Wright, District Hydrologist, Crescent Ranger District, PO Box 208, Crescent, Oregon, 97733 or call at (541) 433-3262.